

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 EB-07 NRC-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15

TRSE-00 ERDA-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 L-03 /050 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: ARA/RPP-PM:LTCSMQUIGG

APPROVED BY: ARA/RPP:C.FINAN

ARA/CEN:MBOVA DRAFT

ARA/RPP:GLISTER DRAFT

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R 082054Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

UNCLAS STATE 274625

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR EXPORT LICENSE

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED APPLICATION FROM GOVERNMENT SUPPLY CORPORATION TO EXPORT 12 TASER TWO-SHOT IMMOBILIZATION DEVICES TO THE PROVEEDURIA NACIONAL, SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA FOR "INTERNAL SECURITY-POLICE" USE.

2. THIS IS FIRST APPLICATION WE HAVE RECEIVED FOR TASER DEVICE THEREFORE IT WILL ESTABLISH PRECEDENT FOR REGION AS A WHOLE. TASER DEVICE IS BILLED AS QUOTE NONLETHAL END QUOTE IMMOBILIZATION DEVICE. IT FIRES TWO SMALL DARTS EACH TRAILING A FINE WIRE BEHIND IT. ONCE THEY HIT THE TARGET, A 50,000 VOLT ELECTRICAL CHARGE IS RELEASED STUNNING THE TARGET. FILMS ON RECENT TV NEWSCASTS HAVE SHOWN A GIRL VOLUNTEER DROPPING AS IF SHOT WHEN HIT BY TASER DARTS. ALLEGEDLY THE TASER WILL NOT KILL ALTHOUGH ONE MUST WONDER ABOUT EFFECTS ON PERSONS IN ILL HEALTH OR WITH HEART CONDITION.

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3. THE BUREAU BELIEVES THE TASER IS A SINGULARLY INAPPRO-

PRIATE DEVICE TO RELEASE TO THE HEMISPHERE. WHILE AN  
OBJECTIVE OBSERVER MIGHT ARGUE THAT BEING STUNG AND  
MOMENTARILY PARALYZED IS BETTER THAN BEING MAIMED OR  
KILLED, WE BELIEVE WE WOULD FIND OURSELVES IN AN UNTENABLE

POSITION TRYING TO DEFEND THE LICENSING FOR EXPORT OF  
AN EXOTIC DEVICE WHICH INFLECTS GRIEVOUS PAIN AND DOES  
NOT SEEM SUITED TO LEGITIMATE DEFENSE OR SECURITY  
PURPOSES.

4. BUREAU POSITION IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION  
SHOULD QUESTION ARISE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SMALL ARMS, ARMS, EXPORT LICENSES, STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE274625  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** PM:LTCSMQUIGG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760430-0487, D760416-0999  
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**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** oatisao  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** APPLICATION FOR EXPORT LICENSE  
**TAGS:** ESTC, MILI, CS, US  
**To:** SAN JOSE  
**Type:** TE  
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